

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A multimedia apparatus comprising:
a mass storage device to store uncompressed and compressed multimedia content; and
compression logic executed by a processor, said compression logic configured to
store uncompressed multimedia content in an interim multimedia buffer on said mass storage device,
compress said uncompressed multimedia content stored in said interim multimedia buffer as a background task to generate compressed multimedia content responsive to a user request to record said multimedia content, and
store said compressed multimedia content in long term multimedia buffer on said mass storage device.
2. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said compression logic is further configured to:
stream said compressed multimedia content from said long term multimedia buffer to a decompression module and then to a multimedia rendering device responsive to a user request to view said multimedia content.

3. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 2 wherein said compression logic is further configured to:

automatically stream said uncompressed multimedia content remaining in said interim multimedia buffer directly to said multimedia rendering device once said compressed multimedia content stored in said long term multimedia buffer has been streamed to said rendering device.

4. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said multimedia content is broadcast video content.

5. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 4 wherein said broadcast video content is transmitted from a cable television provider.

6. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 4 wherein said broadcast video content is a Webcast transmitted over a data network.

7. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising:
light compression logic configured to compress said multimedia signal before said multimedia signal is stored in said interim multimedia buffer.

8. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 7 wherein said light compression logic is adaptive differential pulse code modulation ("ADPCM") logic.

9. (original) The multimedia apparatus as in claim 7 wherein said light compression logic is digital video ("DV25") compression.
10. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method for decreasing the cost of a multimedia storage device comprising:
- storing multimedia content in an interim multimedia buffer on a mass storage device before compressing said multimedia content;
 - compressing said multimedia content stored in said interim multimedia buffer as a background task to generate compressed multimedia content responsive to a user request to record said multimedia content; and
 - storing said compressed multimedia content in long term multimedia buffer on said mass storage device.
11. (original) The method as in claim 10 further comprising streaming said compressed multimedia content from said long term multimedia buffer to a decompression module and then to a multimedia rendering device responsive to a user request to view said multimedia content.
12. (original) The method as in claim 11 further comprising automatically streaming said uncompressed multimedia content remaining in said interim multimedia buffer directly to said multimedia rendering device once said compressed multimedia content stored in said long term multimedia buffer has been streamed to

said rendering device, if any uncompressed multimedia content remains in said interim data buffer when said long term storage buffer is empty.

13. (original) The method as in claim 10 wherein said multimedia content is broadcast video content.

14. (original) The method as in claim 13 wherein said broadcast video content is transmitted from a cable television provider.

15. (original) The method as in claim 13 wherein said broadcast video content is a Webcast transmitted over a data network.

16. (original) The method as in claim 10 further comprising compressing said multimedia content in real-time using light compression logic before said multimedia content is stored in said interim multimedia buffer.

17. (original) The method as in claim 16 wherein said light compression logic is adaptive differential pulse code modulation ("ADPCM") logic.

18. (original) The method as in claim 16 wherein said light compression logic is digital video ("DV25") compression.

19-53. (canceled)